

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for printing text, the method comprising:
2 (a) capturing audio data;
3 (b) filtering the captured audio data to extract text data and print
4 commands;
5 (c) converting the text data to electronic text;
6 (d) accumulating the electronic text in a text buffer;
7 (e) repeating steps (a) through (d) until a print command is
8 extracted from the audio data;
9 (f) translating the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer into
10 a rendered document; and,
11 (g) printing the rendered document.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein capturing the audio data includes:
2 (a) sensing the audio data;
3 (b) generating an analog audio data signal in response to the
4 sensed audio data; and,
5 (c) digitizing the analog audio data signal into captured audio data.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein filtering the captured audio data
2 includes:
3 (a) comparing the captured audio data with text data selection
4 criteria and print command selection criteria;
5 (b) extracting, as a print command, the captured audio data
6 meeting the print command selection criteria; and,
7 (c) extracting, as text data, the captured audio data meeting the
8 text data selection criteria.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein converting the text data to electronic
2 text includes:

- (a) inputting the text data into a speech recognition module; and,
(b) receiving electronic text from the speech recognition module.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein accumulating the electronic text includes appending the electronic text to contents of the text buffer.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein translating the electronic text includes:
(a) combining the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer with a form template; and,
(b) translating the electronic text with the form template into the rendered document.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein translating the electronic text includes translating the electronic text into a form ready for printing.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein printing the rendered document includes reproducing the rendered document onto print media.

9. The method of claim 1 further including purging the text buffer after printing the rendered document.

10. A system for printing text, the system comprising:
(a) an audio digitizer configured to capture audio data;
(b) an audio filter configured to filter captured audio data to extract text data and print commands;
(c) a speech recognition module configured to convert text data to electronic text;
(d) a text buffer configured to accumulate the electronic text;
(e) a rendering subsystem configured to translate the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer into a rendered document; and,
(f) an imaging subsystem configured to print the rendered document.

1 11. The system of claim 10 wherein the audio digitizer includes:

2 (a) a microphone configured to sense audio data and generate an
3 analog audio data signal in response to the sensed audio data; and,

4 (b) an analog to digital converter configured to digitize the analog
5 audio data signal into captured audio data.

1 12. The system of claim 10 wherein the audio filter includes:

2 (a) a selection criteria database including text data selection criteria
3 and print command selection criteria;

4 (b) a comparator configured to compare captured audio data with
5 the text data selection criteria and the print command selection criteria;

6 (c) a print command extractor configured to extract, as a print
7 command, captured audio data meeting the print command selection criteria; and,

8 (d) a text data extractor configured to extract, as text data,
9 captured audio data meeting the text data selection criteria.

1 13. The system of claim 10 further including a buffer cleaner configured to
2 purge the text buffer after printing the rendered document.

1 14. A program storage system readable by a computer, tangibly
2 embodying a program, applet, or instructions executable by the computer to perform
3 method steps for printing text, the method steps comprising:

4 (a) capturing audio data;

5 (b) filtering the captured audio data to extract text data and print
6 commands;

7 (c) converting the text data to electronic text;

8 (d) accumulating the electronic text in a text buffer;

9 (e) repeating steps (a) through (d) until a print command is
10 extracted from the audio data;

11 (f) translating the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer into
12 a rendered document; and,

13 (g) printing the rendered document.

1 15. The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of
2 capturing the audio data includes:

- 3 (a) sensing the audio data;
4 (b) generating an analog audio data signal in response to the
5 sensed audio data; and,
6 (c) digitizing the analog audio data signal into captured audio data.

1 16. The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of
2 filtering the captured audio data includes:

- 3 (a) comparing the captured audio data with text data selection
4 criteria and print command selection criteria;
5 (b) extracting, as a print command, the captured audio data
6 meeting the print command selection criteria; and,
7 (c) extracting, as text data, the captured audio data meeting the
8 text data selection criteria.

1 17. The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of
2 converting the text data to electronic text includes:

- 3 (a) inputting the text data into a speech recognition module; and,
4 (b) receiving electronic text from the speech recognition module.

1 18. The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of
2 translating the electronic text includes:

- 3 (a) combining the electronic text accumulated in the text buffer with
4 a form template; and,
5 (b) translating the electronic text with the form template into the
6 rendered document.

1 19. The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method step of
2 printing the rendered document includes reproducing the rendered document onto
3 print media.

- 1 20. The program storage system of claim 14 wherein the method steps
- 2 further include purging the text buffer after printing the rendered document.

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